

# Cohasset Mariner

The Mariner (and supplements) is a paid circulation newspaper published every Thursday at 541 Plain St., Marshfield, Mass. 02050 for and about the residents of Cohasset. Telephone 545-3950 or 837-3500. Mailing address: Box 71, Cohasset, Mass. 02025. Second class postage paid at Marshfield, Mass. 02050.

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As The Mariner goes to press Tuesday night, all news and advertising copy must be received by Monday at 5 p.m. Readers are invited to submit personal items, accounts of social functions, meetings, wedding and engagements. Photographs (black and white glossy) are also welcome.

Subscription rates: in-town \$8 for one year and \$14 for two years; out-of-town \$10 for one year and \$17 for nine months.

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## Editorial

### A New Wrinkle

Frank England, vice chairman and clairvoyant in residence of the School Committee, predicted Monday night that the board won't support hiring of a health specialist, a new and board-approved position Supt. John Maloney is now in the process of filling.

England's announcement came after the position had been discussed at length on three occasions and voted affirmatively twice during budgeting last winter. The forecast wasn't supported by a committee vote. We wonder, in fact, where and how England "seemed to know" support would exist from enough committee members to kill the position. The Mariner doesn't remember any public negative rumblings about it, nor does the other press, nor does the Superintendent.

Apart from the audacity of England's remarks, we question their legality. Resident and faithful meeting-goer Mary O'Brien was appalled to think that the School Committee would disregard their own votes, and equally horrified to imagine the telephone conversations, and tete-a-tetes that must have gone on around town, for England to have arrived at his thumbs-down consensus.

So are we. Perhaps a call to Norfolk County District Attorney Delahunt's office would determine the validity of England's soothsaying. Perhaps a name could be applied to his proposition — like violation of the open meeting law, for starters.

Unofficial terms such as distrust, intimidation and discouragement might also be tried on for size.

Maloney will continue his search for a health specialist, to coordinate a program for the school system, per the standing committee vote, despite England's considerate advice not to "waste" his time.

And supposing Maloney heeded England's sage advice? Why, the board would probably axe him, too, for not doing his job. What's needed, it seems, is a full committee to vote on a reconsideration of the position. England, having voted negatively couldn't move for reconsideration, and the rest of the board didn't feel it was right until they meet in toto — and that may not happen until September some time.

Whether the interviewing and recommendation process will have been for naught, whether a potential health specialist for the schools will be disappointed by being voted down, whether future votes will be discarded like a worn dishrag remains to be seen.

The School Committee is always good for a new wrinkle.



## Around Town Hall

### TRESPASSING CASE

At a Quincy Court meeting last week, attorneys for Selectmen and William Figueiredo, agreed to a civil court hearing for charges of trespassing by Figueiredo and illegal mooring in Bailey's creek by the town, respectively. The Superior Court date to obtain a restraining order which would prevent Figueiredo from mooring in portions of the creek, which he claims he owns, was cancelled and will be handled in conjunction with the trespassing charges. Selectman Clark indicated that the case could become complicated and may go before a Master hearing.

### COMMUNITY CENTER

The Community Center envisions growth at Tilden Park, the property lying between the Center and the post office, and has expressed interest in acquiring that land. "The Center has seen a rebirth over the past year, and the infusion of capital and renewed interest is enabling us to restore and refurbish the building to serve the needs of the community," a letter from the board of directors stated. The Tilden Park land could further enrich the Center, the letter said.

### ALLOCATION OFFICER

Donald Ainslie has been appointed the gasoline allocation officer for the town and will be in communication with area dispatchers.

### WHEELRIGHT PARK

After all the discussion and planning, the washed sand treatment at the riding ring at Wheelright Park has still left a dusty situation, riders are chagrined to admit. The oiling process, which has checked out with the town Water Department and DEQE but which has not yet been conducted, is troubling nearby neighbors who are afraid of



runoff contamination. For the time being riders are wetting down the area well, and will be required to take extra precautions on July 28 at their next horse show there.

### LETTER OF APPROVAL

Selectmen agreed to send letter to Senator Allen McKinnon supporting the bill concerning the assessment of bats which is now in its third reading in the Mass. Senate, to Gov. King in support of the bottle bill, and to the president of the Harbor Study Committee Charles Fink for his work in the awarding of the \$18,000 CZM harbor assistance grant.

### SEEPAGE FIXED

Lombardi Washed Sand and Gravel Corporation has embarked on a \$15,000 project to repair the seepage of water through the abutments of the old bridge at the Bound Brook control structure on Beechwood Street. According to Water Superintendent Edwin Pratt the bridge, which was built several hundred years ago of lode, stone and cribbing has given way.

The purpose of the control structure, to maintain levels of water in Lily Pond, was prohibited by the seepage. The abutments are being repaired with an impervious cut-off trench with rip rap.

### BOARD OF HEALTH

The Board of Health will meet on August 15 at 8:30 p.m. with Selectmen to appoint a Board of Health member. Applications will be received until Aug. 10 and then they will be rejuvenated by the board at their Aug. 13 meeting before the appointment meeting.

## Pratt Leaves Post

Glenn Pratt has resigned from the Planning Board to prevent more conflict of interest allegations over his involvement as a local developer.

Pratt, a former board chairman, served three years of a five year term. He said recently that his involvement with 79 Atlantic Trust, a development project which he owns with Wayne Sawchuk, also a former board chairman, and Douglas Purdy would hurt the Planning Board.

After March allegations by Eric Pearson, owner of High-

way Motor Sales, that Pratt was in conflict because of the Planning Board's consideration of the Atlantic Avenue property, the charge was referred to Selectmen, Town Counsel J. Blake Thaxter and finally Norfolk District Attorney William Delahunt.

Delahunt ruled in April that Pratt was not in violation of the conflict of interest law because members of the Planning Board were classified by the town as "special municipal employees," which exempts them from portion of the conflict law.

## Selectmen Probe Viability Of Sportsman's Club

Whether or not the Sportsman's Club on Route 3A is still a viable organization remained a moot question after Selectmen questioned Joseph Rosano, club president, last week.

A 1950's Town Meeting had voted to place the three-room clubhouse on town land, and allowed the acreage behind that building, as rental property for the club. Since that time taxes and insurance have been paid on the clubhouse. Yet residents have been questioning the ongoing nature of the club, Selectman said, and wondering whether the property is being used as a private home.

Rosano had signed for the registered letter Selectmen sent the club questioning any ongoing club activities. Rosano and his son Joseph Jr.

informed the Selectmen that although membership had dwindled to five people, the club was still in existence. Rosano Jr. said he was the club custodian and stayed at the house part of the year for maintenance purposes.

Rosano presented a sheet with names of existing officers from 1975, many of whom, including the secretary and vice president, have since passed away. This was the last official document from the club that Rosano could present, although his son contended that the club had met three weeks before and continue to meet on occasion.

Selectman Chairman Arthur Clark doubted the club's existence on a number of counts. "We're not allowed to make a lease for over five years, and

your lease has never been renewed that I know of," he said. He also noted that if consistent meeting minutes and secretary's reports weren't kept, the club couldn't be legally considered an ongoing organization.

Rosano Jr. questioned whether official reports were necessary to keep the club going. He was uncertain about the club's financial status and whether it was incorporated.

Selectmen said they wanted a secretary and treasurer's report, as well as a financial statement.

"We're being faced with either renewing the lease or discontinuing it," Selectmen Henry Ainslie said. "The original lease isn't worth anything now."